Collection 5 of 1940.

File
Collection No 215/40
Sl. No. 1-3

Confidential.

1940-41

Part B - for Nov 1940.

Subject:- Complaint of Mr. K.T. Bhashyam regarding the official interference with district Board Elections.

Confidential Section No. 53240

App. F. IX-4

Previous References.

1940-41

G. File No. 215-40

Serial Nos. 1-3

Later References.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1-3

Part B for Nov, 1940

SUBJECT.

Complaint of Mr K.T. Bhashyam regarding the official interference with District Board elections.

Serial No.

7156.

8849
10.4.40

9101
17-4

Letter dated 7th April 1940 from Mr. K.T. Bhashyam Aiyangar complaining that Government subordinat are openly and actively working against the Congress candidates for District Board elections, and inquiring if the Govt. have decided on any policy in the matter.

(1) Subd. Government have not issued any instructions in the matter of elections. It is for orders if any reply need be sent to Mr. Bhashyam Iyengar's letter.

(2) gsld sd) -/
no

KK 10/4. 2nd member } KK 11.4 MK 10/4
Dewan }

(3) We need not enter into correspondence with Congressmen as matters stand at present.
MK
12-4-40
MK 13/4

(4) Subd. for perusal.
KK 14/4. Law Secy.

Any

Hon 2 15/4/40.
Letter dt 17-4-40 from Mr. K.T. Bhashyam Aiyangar requests for an early reply.
Subd. for perusal. No reply has been sent to Mr. Bhashyam Aiyangar, as directed by the Dewan in his minute dt 12-4-40.

KK 17/4. 2nd member) No answer MK 17.4.40.
KK 21.4
MK 22/4

NOTE-Contn. Sheet 40

File No. of 19 .

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial No.

Letter dated 10th May 1940 from Mr. K.T. Bhashyam complaining that he has not received any reply to his letters, and stating that he intends releasing the entire correspondence after the 20th instant, if Govt. have no objection.

Subd. for orders. Mr. Bhashyam states that he has proof in support of his complaint, and that he intends releasing the entire correspondence to the Press. Mr. Bhashyam has already published his two letters to Govt., in the Newspapers, and it is not therefore clear what further correspondence there is for him to release.

11.5.40 do not think we need take notice of this - we should not be drawn into a controversy on the basis of vague charges

12.5.40

14-5-40

21/5

Letter dated the 28th November 1940 from Mr. K.T.Bhashyam bringing to notice, on behalf of the Working Committee of the Mysore Congress, that Government officers have been organising campaigns against the Congress in connection with the elections.

Subd. Mr. Bhashyam had once before written to Govt. about official interference against

Serial No.

OFFICE OF THE
DEC 2 1940
No 5486

the Congress, and enquiring if the Government have decided on any policy in the matter. It was ~~order~~ ordered that the letter need not be replied. He now states that the Working Committee desire to obtain a declaration of the views of Govt. and their policy regarding the matter.

'S OFFICE
1940
8630
5426(a)
30.11.40

2nd member
1st member
Dewan

30.11.40

No noting and action of me called.

3-12-40

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR, B.A., B.L.
ADVOCATE

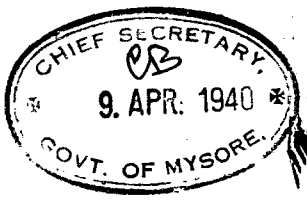
D 2917 COTTONPET,
BANGALORE CITY.

7. 4. 40.

CD. 215-40-1

To

The Chief Secretary,
to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.



Sir,

You must be aware ~~that~~ the Mysore Congress has decided ~~to~~ contest the elections ~~to the~~ District Boards. As Chairman of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee of the Mysore Congress I have been touring several parts of the State. I find ~~that~~ in most parts the District and Subordinate authorities are openly and actively working against the Congress candidates. Our candidates are threatened and otherwise persuaded ~~to~~ give up the elections. Several persons have been coaxed ~~to~~ stand as Congress candidates. Officers and their agents thus interfering with the free course of elections will reduce the elections to a farce and the result will be forced voting for official candidates. I need hardly add ~~that~~ it is the duty of the Government ~~to~~ keep the ring and not enter

the lists. I hope that it is the misguided zeal of some local officers and not a definite policy on the part of government.

I shall thank you to be so good as to let me know whether the government have decided on any policy in the matter. If you agree that officers should not interfere with elections may I request you to be so good as to issue a circular for the information of all officers. I have in my possession evidence of several instances, which I shall have no objection to bring to your notice, where officers have interfered in the manner complained. I am not however so anxious about any action being taken against such officers as about the prevention of such conduct in future and a sense of confidence in the public minds being developed about the fairness of the elections & the impartiality of the government in the people's choice of their representatives.

Thanking you for an early reply I am

Yours truly,

H.T. Bhadrapur.

P.S. If your reply is posted on or before the 11th inst it may kindly be addressed to me, Azad nagar, Shimoga. H.T.B.

(2)

K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR, B.A., B.L.
ADVOCATE
President, Congress.

COTTONPET,
BANGALORE CITY.

17.4.40.

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Government of Congress,
Bangalore.

SECRETARY
17 APR 1940
GOVT. OF MYSORE.

17/4

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my letter to you dated the 7th inst. bringing to your notice the unjust interference of local officers against Congress candidates in the ensuing elections to the District Boards, I regret that I have not had a reply from you though it is now ten days since I addressed the letter. Since the election date is nearing & the officers are still actively interfering as complained I shall thank you to let me know what exactly is the policy of the Govt in the matter & what directions are given to the officers.

Yours sincerely
K. T. Bhashyam

Mr. Abdul Aziz Khan,
Deputy Commissioner,

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE,

IMMEDIATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

No. J/ CC 281/39-40

Dated ....23rd April.....1940.

OFFICE OF THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL
APR 24 1940
No. 9834

C S 3010

Dear Sir

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
28 APR 1940
No. 4561

I enclose herewith, for the information of Government, a copy of letter No.C.C.4/39-40 dated 22-4-1940 together with its enclosure received from the Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City.

583/16.4.40

Yours sincerely,

Submd.
1 MS 24/4

1st Member
2nd member
& Dewan

A.A.Khan

(I have not seen the K.T. Bhashyam letter or the reply thereto now)

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bangalore.

The connected file is sent for perusal. I am sorry for the omission to submit the same earlier.
1 member
MS 25/4

Seen. Thanks
MS 28-4-40
25/4/40 FCB
1 MS 25/4
27.8

Letter No.C.C.4/39-40 dated 22-4-1940 from the Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City, to the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District.

-- --

Mysore Congress.

-- --

I have the honour to state that Mr. K.T. Bhashyam returned from his tour in Mysore District on the 20th evening. He attended the Congress office on the 21st instant and released the following correspondences that passed between the Government and himself as the President of the Mysore Congress, re. the alleged official interferences in the Local Board Elections etc. The copies of this correspondence/ are reported to have been despatched to the Indian Express, Madras Mail and other Papers with a covering letter to the respective Editors.

2. Mr. Bhashyam is also reported to have written letters to the Editors of Myscindia and Federal India and Indian States refuting certain allegations against the Congress in the State etc.

3. Mr. K.T. Bhashyam and V.S. Narayana Rao left last night for Davangere to continue the propaganda tour in connection with the District Board Elections.

-- --

" Copy "

Deputy Commissioner,
Bangalore District.

The Mysore Congress.

Shri [illegible], President, Mysore Congress, has issued the following statement to the press:-

Mysore Elections.

Interference by Government officers.

Certain Government officers, particularly local officials such as Talukdars and Circle [illegible] are openly and actively canvassing for candidates who oppose the Congress. This is utterly reprehensible. I wrote to the Chief Secretary the following letter on [illegible]:-

---

The Chief Secretary to
Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I must be aware that the Mysore Congress has decided to contest the elections to the District Boards. A Committee of the All India Sub-Committee of the Mysore Congress have been touring several parts of the State. I find that in most parts the District and Taluk authorities are openly and actively working against the Congress candidates. Our candidates are threatened and otherwise persuaded to give up the elections. - Several persons have been warned to stand against Congress candidates. Officers and their peons thus interfering with the free course of elections will render the elections to a farce and the results will be forced votings for official candidates. - need hardly say that it is the duty of the Government to keep the ring and not enter into it. I hope that it is the misguided zeal of some of the officers and not a definite policy on the part of - Government.

I shall thank you to be so good as to let me know whether Government have taken any policy in the matter. If you agree that officers should not interfere with elections, may I request you to be so good as to issue a circular for the information of all officers. I have in my possession evidence of - several instances, which I shall have no objection to bring to your notice. Where officers do interfere in the manner complained. I am not however so anxious about any action being taken against such officers as about the prevention of such conduct in future and a sense of confidence in the public mind being developed about the fairness of the elections and the impartiality of the Government in the people's choice of their representatives.

Thanking you for an early reply.

I am
Yours truly,

Feb.

If your reply is posted on or before the 15th inst. it may kindly be dated as 15th, [illegible]. I did not - receive a reply nor even an acknowledgement. I sent a reminder on 17-3-1940 as follows:-

To

The Chief Secretary,
to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter to you dated the 7th inst. - bearing on your notice the unjust interference of local officials against Congress candidates in the ensuing elections to the District Boards. As yet I have not had a reply from you although it is now [illegible] days since I addressed the letter.

Since the election date is nearing and the officers are still actively interfering as complained I should thank you to let me know what exactly is the Policy of the Government in the matter and what directions are given to the officers.

Yours truly,

I have received no reply to it up-to-date. The elections are to be held on 1-5-1940. The Deputy Commissioner of Kolar is openly declaiming against the Congress as disloyal; this when election propaganda are being carried on!

The Congress Government are not playing the game unless they forbid their subordinates from interfering in the elections. I am surprised that my complaint has not evoked a reply. It leads one to conclude that the Government are not unwilling that the officials should use their position and power to sway the elections. That would be an abuse of power and the elections would be a farce. I appeal to the public not to be intimidates by official interference and to vote according to their conscience. But how about the polling officers? They are officials. What confidence can the public have, unless Government openly declare under the circumstance their attitude of impartiality, at least as a reply to my complaint? It is the duty of Government to satisfy the public regarding these matters and that at once.

(SD) K. T. Bashyam,

PRESIDENT.

Bangalore City,
D. 22nd April '40.

ಮೈಸೂರು ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ (3)

THE MYSORE CONGRESS CS 215/40-2

PRESIDENT
K. T. BHASHYAM, B.A., B.L.
GENERAL SECRETARY
K. PATTABHIRAMAN, B.A., B.L.
TREASURER
H. C. DASAPPA, B.A., LL.B.

Ref No. 197/40

Sultanpet,
BANGALORE CITY

Dated 10th May 1940.

To

The Chief Secretary,
to the Government of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

CB

CHIEF SECRETARY
10 MAY 1940
GOVT. OF MYSORE.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my letters to you dated the 7th April and the 17th April 1940, I regret to state that so far I have not been favoured with any reply from you. I had brought to your notice a some-what serious matter, namely, the interference of Government officials in the District Board elections, abusing their official position, power and influence in canavasing votes for certain candidates as against others. If you felt that it was not true you could have told me so and that would have been sufficient declaration of the Government view that they do not countenance such inferference. If you felt it was true, you could have told me whether you approved of it or not. I had also written that I have plenty

ಮೈಸೂರು ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್
THE MYSORE CONGRESS

PRESIDENT
K. T. BHASHYAM, B.A., B.L.
GENERAL SECRETARY
K. PATTABHIRAMAN, B.A., B.L.
TREASURER
H. C. DASAPPA, B.A., LL.B.

Cottonpet, BANGALORE CITY

Dated 28th November, '40

CB.215-40-3

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government
of Mysore, BANGALORE.

CHIEF SECRETARY
30 NOV. 1940
GOVT. OF MYSORE

Sir,

I have been desired by the Working Committee of the Mysore Congress to bring to the notice of the Government the fact that several Government Officers and officials have been carrying on a systematic campaign of vilification against the Mysore Congress in most parts of the State. In particular I have to complain of the official pressure and interference in ways, subtle and direct, during the elections to the Local Bodies of the State. Furthermore I see an organised move on the part

part of these officers to defeat the Congress during the coming elections to the Legislature.

Even as early as the 7th of April, 1940, I brought to your notice that the District and Subordinate authorities in most parts of the State have been openly and actively working against the Congress Candidates and that our Candidates have been threatened and otherwise persuaded to give up their candidature at the elections to the District Boards. I sent a reminder to you on 17-4-1940 with a view to eliciting a declaration of policy on the part of the Government in regard to the elections. My reminder did not elicit a reply, nor even an acknowledgement. In such an atmosphere of open hostility, propaganda and pressure, our Candidates faced the elections and came out successful in large numbers. Our success was sought to be defeated by nominations and official voting. I now regret to find that these

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THE MYSORE CONGRESS

PRESIDENT
K. T. BHASHYAM, B.A., B.L.
GENERAL SECRETARY
K. PATTABHIRAMAN, B.A., B.L.
TREASURER
H. C. DASAPPA, B.A., LL.B.

Sultanpet,
BANGALORE CITY

Dated.....

these officers have redoubled their efforts to obstruct the Congress in its normal and legitimate election efforts and propaganda.

I wish to refer you to the annexure appended hereto wherein some glaring instances of official pressure are set forth. The Government servants referred to have issued notices to a large number of persons, including Patels, Shanbogues, Contractors etc., suspending and dismissing some of them for "having voted in favour of Congress Candidates and securing votes for them at the District Board elections". That ~~the~~ ballot boxes have been broken open and the sacredness of these boxes has been violated must be abundantly clear from both the tenor of the notices and the unimpeachable testimony of

of men of status and standing in the public life of the country. The Orders served by the Amildar of Hassan Taluk on some of the Patels dismissing them from service "on having come to know that during the last elections for the District Board Members, you have voted for Congress Candidates and for having influenced people to vote for them" amply bear out this allegation. I venture to believe that the Government would not countenance such violation of the secrecy and sacredness of the ballot box And the least that one would expect is an unequivocal declaration to that effect.

Instances are not wanting where government officers and subordinate officials of the Revenue and the Income-tax Departments have tried to influence and coerce voters to prefer Candidates opposing the Congress. Questionable methods have been adopted by officials in some places to drive home the feeling that the government are opposed to the Congress Candidates and

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THE MYSORE CONGRESS

PRESIDENT
K. T. BHASHYAM, B.A., B.L.
GENERAL SECRETARY
K. PATTABHIRAMAN, B.A., B.L.
TREASURER
H. C. DASAPPA, B.A., LL.B.

Sultanpet,
BANGALORE CITY

Dated.....

and to coerce the voters to record their votes against the Congress. I must add that the purity of elections has never been attempted to be maintained unsullied by these officers.

I could give you many more instances to show that officers have taken active steps to interfere with the normal activities of the Mysore Congress in regard to its general propaganda and the election work. I invite reference to a notice issued by the Amildar of Closepet Taluk on the 4th of August, 1940 to the Chairman of the Village Panchayat of Kuppe Village in the following terms: "It has come to my notice that you are going to attend a meeting of Congressmen on 12-8-1940 in the premises of Advocate Subba Rao in Closepet in

in connection with Congress activities. If you do so and take part in Congress activities you will be removed from the Chairmanship of the Village Panchayat". Another notice that may be referred to in this connection is one that was issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Kolar District to Shri. M.S. Veerappa of Melur Village in Sidlaghatta Taluk in the following terms: "It has been brought to my notice that M.S. Veerappa, Member, Rural Water Supply Committee, Kolar District, is taking interest in subversive activities of the Mysore Congress and is continuing as a member of the organisation He is therefore removed from his membership". I may add that Shri. M.S. Veerappa was returned at the top of the poll as a Congress Candidate to the District Board from his Taluk and that this result was announced on the 2nd of May, 1940 and this notice referred to above was served on him two days later. The officials have been terrorising people from attending

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THE MYSORE CONGRESS

PRESIDENT
K. T. BHASHYAM. B.A., B.L.
GENERAL SECRETARY
K. PATTABHIRAMAN. B.A., B.L.
TREASURER
H. C. DASAPPA. B.A., LL.B.

Sulthanpet,
BANGALORE CITY

Dated

attending Congress meetings and I have myself witnessed Revenue and Police Officers dissuading people from attending such meetings.

It is neither fair nor even just that government servants should indulge or be permitted to indulge in such activities. The Mysore Congress is a political organisation in the State recognised as such by the government in their Order dated 17th May, 1938. It is engaged in Parliamentary activities and is contesting the elections to the Local Bodies and to the Legislatures in a perfectly constitutional and legitimate manner. It is entitled therefore to as much consideration at the hands of the government as any other political organisation engaged in the elections. But I find

find that officers have been openly aligning themselves against the Congress and exhibiting a determined attitude of hostility towards it.

The General Elections to the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council are notified to come off on the 8th of February, 1941. The elections would be a farce unless those at least who hold them - the government and its officers - maintain strict impartiality and safeguard the purity of the elections. It would be wasteful of time and money both public and private if the authorities themselves interfere with the elections and load the dice against the Congress. The elections are meant to reflect public opinion and popular will; and how can they do so if they are ~~xxxx~~ manipulated in their own favour by those in authority and power In the interests of justice and to safeguard the purity of the elections, I have been asked by the Working Committee of the Mysore Congress to bring the above facts to the notice of the

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THE MYSORE CONGRESS

PRESIDENT
K. T. BHASHYAM. B.A., B.L.
GENERAL SECRETARY
K. PATTABHIRAMAN. B.A., B.L.
TREASURER
H. C. DASAPPA. B.A., LL.B.

Sultanpet,
BANGALORE CITY

Dated_____

the Government and to obtain a declaration of their views and policy regarding the matter. I shall thank you to be so good as to favour me with an early reply and oblige.

I remain,
Yours truly,

K. T. Bhashyam

tns/-

President,

THE MYSORE CONGRESS.

APPENDIX.

I. HASSAN DISTRICT:

a) About 140 Patels and 40 Shanbogues have been served with notices to the following effect:-

> "It has come to the notice of the Government that you have voted for Congress or co-operated in securing votes for the Congress in the recent District Board Elections. You are therefore required to be present before the Sub-Division Officer, Hassan for enquiry ..... etc".

b) Orders to the following effect have been passed in case of several Patels by the Amildar, Hassan Taluk:-

> 1) "As directed by the S.D.O., in his No. C. No. 156-40 dated 30-7-1940 dismissing you from the Pateli Office on having come to know that during the last elections for the District Board Members, you have voted for Congress Candidates and for having influenced people to vote for them, you are hereby directed to hand over all the accounts and papers to the Revenue Inspector immediately after the receipt of this notice".
>
> (Sd/-)
>
> Amildar,
> Hassan Taluk.

> 2) "As it has come to the notice of the undersigned that at the last elections to the District Board you have encouraged people to vote for the Congress and that you have also voted for them, you are hereby directed to appear before the Sub-Division Officer .. etc., to give your explanation etc".

NOTE: The D.O., and the Memo mentioned hereunder go to show the eagerness and the zeal with which the Officers concerned wanted to proceed against the alleged 'offenders'.

a) Office of the Asst. Commissioner,
Hassan Sub-Division,
Dated, Hassan, 27th August, 1940.

Dear Sir,

I write to inform you that the Orders issued or to be issued in the case of Village Officers who have helped the Congress Candidates during the recent District Board Elections or who have taken part in Congress activities and are carrying on subversive propaganda against the Government, are required to be carried out without loss of time and report submitted for having given effect to such orders within a week of the receipt of the order in the Taluk Office. I may state here that in case any order remains unexecuted within the period, I would be constrained to bring it to the notice of the higher authorities who would look with great disfavour. The action taken till now may be reported. This will be the personal responsibility

responsibility of the Amildar and reports stating that the Revenue Inspectors have been directed, will not be taken into consideration. Hence it is presumed that you will not give room to any sort of unpleasantness

Yours sincerely,
(Sd/-)

b) IMMEDIATE. Taluk Office, Hassan,
Dated: 2nd Sep., 1940.

M E M O.

The enclosed notices issued as per orders of the Sub-Division Officer, Hassan, should be got served immediately by the Revenue Inspectors, and such of the notices served should be submitted by batches, so that they may be submitted to the Sub-Division Officer - immediately. No report should be made that persons noted in the notice are not available etc., and all provisions for the service of notices should be made use of. There should not be any notice left unserved. They should complete the service by the 10th instant and final report submitted. The matter should be treated as urgent and the Revenue Inspector is held personally responsible for this. Any dereliction will have to be seriously noticed.

(Sd/-)

Amildar.

c) Sjt. H.N. Subba Rao, Ag. School Board Assistant, has sent a notice to School Masters Sjts. NingeGowda and others, a free translation of which is as follows:-

"It is necessary to obtain the explanation of the following School Masters, who, being Government servants have voted for the Candidates set up on the Congress ticket, and the same is necessary to take further action in the matter. You are hereby directed to take their explanation on the same day this reaches you and send the same immediately in a cover marked 'confidential'. You should not delay in the least".

(Sd/)
Ag. School Board Assistant,
Hassan.

d) Sjt. Settappa, D.P.W. Contractor, Kadathana Halli Village, was notified that his contracts would be cancelled inasmuch as he voted for the Congress Candidates. Subsequently his contracts were restored after taking an apology from him for having voted for the Congress Candidates.

e) Sjt. V. Narasimhachar, Gollar, Munsiff's Court, Holenarasipur, received the following Order on 31-8-40:-

"With reference to his application dated 29-8-40, Mr. V. Narasimhachar, Gollar, is hereby informed that he is suspended for two months from 26-8-40 upon a confidential communication from the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, and this period of suspension does not count for service as it is Ordered as a specific penalty. Copies of the Official correspondence cannot be granted as it is of a confidential

confidential nature".

(Sd/-)

Munsiff,
Holenarasipur.

When further approached for the cancellation of the said Order, Sjt. V. Narasimhachar was given the following reply:--

M E M O.

"With reference to his application dated 12-9-40 for cancellation of suspension Order against him, V. Narasimhachar, Gollar, is hereby informed that it is final and has been reported both to the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, and to the District Judge, Mysore Division".

(Sd/-)

Munsiff,
Hole Narasipur.

The following is the Order of the District Judge on appeal:--

"I have perused the rules framed by the Government. They do not in any way restrict the right of vote vested in a person, even though he be a Government servant. Though the official has admitted that he had voted for a Congress Candidate, he has not stated that he did so with a view to encourage the Congress activities. Rule 56 says that a Government servant who is qualified to vote may exercise his right to vote, but if he does so he shall give no indication of the manner in which he proposes to vote or has voted. There is no charge against the official that after voting he gave any indication of the manner in which he voted. The vote was given by ballot. If the Government intended to restrict the right to vote, clear rules would have been framed in the matter.

So I am of opinion that the punishment of the official is not proper under the circumstances. *He has also tendered an apology. I set aside the Order of suspension passed by the Munsiff on the official. *The warning given to him is sufficient punishment if punisnment is necessary".

(Sd/-)
District Judge, Mysore.

f) The following is a free translation of notices sent to Village Officers directing them to prevent Congress meetings and enrolment of Congress members:-

"Notwithstanding there are circular Orders to the effect that Village Officers should not be members of Institutions which are engaged in activities calculated to create disturbances by means of political agitation, Village Officers are abusing their position as such and encouraging such Institutions by helping the holding of meetings and publishing the same by means of Tom - Tom through the help of their

their subordinates and further these Village Officers are themselves becoming members and otherwise helping the Organisation. Such action on the part of these Village Officers has come to the notice of the undersigned and the Sub-Division Officer. The Patels and - Shanbogues are hereby warned that hereafter they should not engage in such activities.

They are hereby further directed that they have to immediately send reports to the undersigned in case such meetings are held and members enrolled. If these officials fail to do so or otherwise encourage such meetings they will be punished and they will be removed from the Offices also. Take notice".

Date: 3-11-1940. (Sd/-)

Amildar,
Holenarasipur Taluk.

II. KOLAR DISTRICT:

The following are some of the persons who have been victimised for alleged participation in Congress activities:-

1. Goribidnur Taluk:-

Sjt. Sreenivasa Rao, Shanbogue, Darinayakana Palya.
Sjt. Krishna Rao, Patel, - do -

Suspended from Office.

2. Gudibanda Taluk:-

Sjt. Lakshminaranappa, Patel, Somena Halli - Suspended for one year; Inamthi lands attached; Orders set aside after he became the Treasurer of the 'Rashtriya Mahasabha' rival political Institution with official backing.

3. Bagepalli Taluk:-

Sjt. Gopala Rao, Shanbogue, Gulur - suspended for one year.

Sjt. Arunachalam, Shanbogue, Guttapalya - dismissed.

Sjt. Sadasiva Rao, Branch Post Master, Gulur - removed from the Office at the instance of the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

4. Chikballapur Taluk:-

Sjt. Appi Reddy, Patel, Korepalli - suspended for one year.

Sjt. H.S. Narasimha Reddy, Patel, Chikballapur - suspended for one year. His contract in the D.P.W. Department cancelled. Office restored on his undertaking to help the 'Rashtriya Mahasabha'.

Sjt. M. Sreenivasa Murthy, Shanbogue, Kalavara - suspended for one year; Inamthi lands attached; Potatoe crop valued at Rs. 500/- attached and sold for about Rs. 75/-

Sjt. Venkataswamy, Patel, Gera Halli - suspended for one year.

Sjt. Sreekantiah, Shanbogue, Patrena Halli - suspended for a year.

5. Sidlaghatta Taluk:-

The following Patels and Shanbogues are suspended for one year:---

(a) Sjt. Byataraya Gowda, Patel, Malamachanahalli.
(b) Sjt. Rama Rao, Shanbogue, - do -
(c) Sjt. Bache Gowda, Patel, Bhakthara Halli.
(d) Sjt. S. Ramanna, Shanbogue, Melur.
(e) Sjt. Ramaswamappa, Shanbogue, Kutakathammana Halli.

NOTE:- In the case of Sjts. Ramanna and Ramaswamappa the Inamthi lands and the crops standing thereon attached and sold.

Notices have been issued to the following Chairman to the Village Panchayats to show cause why they should not be removed from office for subversive activities:--

(a) Sjt. Dyavappa, Chairman, Malamachanahalli.
(b) Sjt. Bandi Naranappa, Chairman, Bhaktharahalli.

Sjt. Seetharama Rao's contract in the District Board regarding Muthur Road taken away from him and given to his rival.

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, has served the following notice dated 4-5-1940 on Sjt. M.S. Veerappa of Melur:--

"It has been brought to my notice that M.S. Veerappa Member, Rural Water Supply Committee, Kolar District, is taking interest in subversive activities of the Mysore Congress and is continuing as a member of the Organisation. He is therefore removed from his membership".

The Amildar, Sidlaghatta, has issued the following notice:--

MUZC 100/39-40,
Dated: 20-5-1940.

To

Sjts M.S. Veerappa and Seetharama Rao of Melur.

"During the Rathothsava of Gangadevi you did not exert yourself as you should have done and when the Rathothsavam was going on you took part in a procession likely to create a breach of the peace. You are therefore removed from the place of Convener and Dharmadarsi of the Temple as per Orders of the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, No. A2C 3066/39-40 dated 6-5-1940".

NOTE:- It is a matter of interest to note that Sjt. M.S. Veerappa topped the polls in the District Board elections on the Congress ticket and the results were declared on 2-5-40.

6. Chintamani Taluk:-

The following Patels and Shanbogues are suspended for periods extending from six months to one year:--

1) Veera Reddy, Patel, Madikere.
2) Venkataramiah, Shanbogue, Madikere.
3) Narayana Swamy, Patel, Murugamale.
4) Muniswamy Reddy, Patel, Gudisala Halli.
5) Venkata Krishnappa, Shanbogue, Nimmaji Kottur.

Sjt. Gopala Reddy, Patel, Hiriyanahalli - dismissed.

Sjts. Ramadasappa and Venkataswamy Reddy were D.P.W. Contractors. Their Road contracts were taken away.

7. Sreenivasapur Taluk:-

The following Patels and Shanbogues are suspended:-

a) Gopala Reddy, Patel of Byragana Halli - also removed from the Board of Directors of the Local Land Mortgage Bank.

b) G. Ramappa, Patel, Gownipalli - suspended.

c) Sreenivasa Rao, Shanbogue, Gennapalli - suspended.

The following Patels and Shanbogues were dismissed:-

a) G.K. Venkataramiah, Shanbogue, Gownipalli. He is the brother of G.K. Raghunatha Rao, elected to the District Board on the Congress ticket.

b) Subba Reddy, Patel, Dodda Palli.

c) Venkatanaraniah, Shanbogue, Arakere.

d) G. Chikka Subbarayappa was a contractor. The Road contract of the approach road from Thadagollu to Gowni Palli was taken away from him.

8. Bowringpet Taluk:-

The following Patels & Shanbogues were suspended:-

a) K. Venkatarama Reddy, Patel, Kyasamballi. This gentleman is the brother of Sjt. K.C.Reddy.

b) Pape Gowda, Patel, Budikote.

c) Krishna Murthy, Shanbogue, Pakarahalli.

d) Nanjundappa, Shanbogue.

Sjt. Ranga Rao, Shanbogue, Thimmasandra -dismissed.

Show Cause notice has been issued to Sjts.Balappa, Shanbogue, Buchappalli and Ramappa, Shanbogue, Kyasamballi.

9. Kolar Taluk:-

The following Shanbogues were suspended for a year:-

a) Venkatasubbiah, Shanbogue, Sugatur.

b) M.S. Krishna Murthy, Shanbogue, Nernahalli.

ii) The Orders in almost all these cases run along the following lines:-

"As I am satisfied that Patel ..... of ..... Village has acted contrary to circular instructions of the Revenue Commissioner and has given active assistance to subversive propaganda and activities in his jurisdiction, I suspend him for a period of one year from the Pateli Office ...

Patel ..... should be relieved immediately of his duties and action will be taken to remove from his position, the service Inam lands, if any, and lease them out for a period of one year. Prompt action should be taken".

(Sd/-)

Sub-Division Officer.

b) While scrutinising the accounts of Sjt. Settahalli Chikka Venkataswamappa, Merchant, Chikballapur, the income-tax officer asked him whether he was not a member of the District Board elected on the Congress ticket. Subsequently the income-tax clerk suggested to Sjt. Venkataswamappa that he should resign from the Congress in order to avoid the displeasure of the income-tax officer and evil consequences to himself.

c) The income-tax clerk was successful in inducing Sjt. M.B. Chinnappa who had filed his candidature on the Congress ticket to the Municipal Council to withdraw the same. But he could not succeed, though he tried his best, to secure the withdrawal of Y. Narasimhaiya.

d) Both the Amildar of Chikballapur and Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, tried their best to secure the withdrawal of the candidature of Sjt. T. Venkataramanappa, in the elections to the Municipal Council through the intervention of a close relative of the candidate namely Sjt. M. Venkatarayappa, an influential merchant of Chintamani.

e) The Amildar of Chikballapur issued notices to certain Neeraganties, voters in Chikballapur on the ground that they did not discharge their duties properly and when they appeared before him, he directed them to vote for the Rashtriya Mahasabha candidate.

f) The Deputy Commissioner himself has canvassed votes for one Sjt. J. Thimmiah, the candidate who was set up under the influence of the Amildar to oppose the Congress candidate.

g) The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, called on the Head Master of the High School and spoke to him to the following effect:--

"Tell your assistants that I would crush them if they do not vote for the candidates named by Shri C. Ramaswamy, the sitting President of the town Municipal Council".

h) At the instance of School Master Aswathnaraniah who was canvassing votes for Sjt. C.Ramaswamy the Deputy Commissioner has requested the D.P.I., to forward complaints against the said School Master to him for investigation and not to D.E.O.

i) The Deputy Commissioner has requested the Munsiff of Chikballapur to warn two Amins who were alleged to be sympathetically inclined towards Congress.

j) Some incidents which occured just before or after the Election Day are noted hereunder:--

1. The Deputy Commissioner came toChikballapur on the evening of the 18th and took away in his car Mr. Yernool Venkatarayappa, formerly Vice-President who was sympathetically inclined towards the Congress though he could not openly flout the wishes of the Deputy Commissioner. He was not allowed to return to Chikballapur till after the elections. We lost the votes of Mr. Venkatarayappa, his two sons, and also his support.

2. The Amildar of Goribidnur, Mr. Chandulal who was so able to defeat all the Congress Candidates in the recent District Board elections by his dubious methods, was specially brought as polling officer and was posted at the second division polling booth, the biggest constituency with five seats and five hundred voters. The Amildar of Chikballapur was the polling officer in the next biggest polling station.

3. Associates were all chosen from the staunch supporters of anti-Congress candidates.

4. The Amildar of Chikballapur began to threaten voters with attachments etc., for arrears of revenue openly in the polling booth where he was himself polling officer.

5. The Associates were canvassing inside the booths votes for their friends. Some of them were persons who had actually distributed money for voters.

6. Rowdies were allowed to abuse Congressmen in foul language at the polling booths. One congress Volunteer was actually kicked by the agent of a Candidate with boots on. The D.S.P. and Police Officers who were present at the spot did not interfere at all.

7. The voters were hustled by the polling officers.

8. In some polling booths voters were not allowed to carry any papers or cards with them to refresh their memories regarding the names and symbols of candidates.

9. Some of the Polling officers asked leading questions suggesting the names as to whom they would vote.

10. Some polling officers were asking the voters whether they had not received money from a particular candidate, under instructions from associates.

11. To some voters ballot papers were given upside down with a view to confuse them, that is, when they wanted to vote from the bottom of the list where the names of Congress candidates were printed. Some were compelled to mark their vote in the presence of associates.

12. Some of the polling booths were situated in narrow lanes and the available open ground was occupied by the anti-Congress candidate by erecting pandals with out allowing any place for supporters of Congress candidates.

13. The candidates were not allowed to put seals to the ballot boxes in divisions number 1,2,3 and 6.

14. The candidates were not allowed to examine the seals ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ before opening ballot box in the division number 1.

15. The Police Sub-Inspector was appointed a Teller inspite of objections.

16. Tellers were not allowed to scrutinise the voting papers before counting. The suggestion that the non-official teller should read out the names from the ballot papers were turned down arbitrarily.

17. The candidates were not allowed to examine votes declared invalid.

18. In many instances votes of illiterate voters have been marked for the wrong candidates by the polling officers.

19. Money was paid to voters near the polling stations and the officers did not take notice though they were witnessing the same.

III. BANGALORE DISTRICT:-

a) Sjt. Patel Hanumantharayappa has been relieved from his Pateli Office after his election to the District Board on the Congress ticket.

b) Sjt. Ramaswamiah, who filed his candidature on the Congress ticket to the Municipal election at Yelahanka, and who has some near relatives in Government service has been made to discard the Congress ticket.

c) Income-tax notices have been served on Sjt. Ramiah soon after his son Sjt. Ajje Gowda filed his candidature application on the Congress ticket.

d) Amildar, Closepet Taluk, Bangalore District, issued a notice C. No. 1 of 40-41 dated 4-8-40 to Shri B. Bore Gowda, Chairman, Village Panchayat of Kuppe in Kailancha Hobli as follows:--

> "It has come to my notice that you are going to attend a meeting of Congressmen on 12-8-40 in the premises of Advocate Subba Rao in Closepet in connection with Congress activities. If you do so and take part in Congress activities, you will be removed from the Chairmanship of the Village Panchayat".

IV. TUMKUR DISTRICT:-

Sjt. C.H. Lingadevaru has been dismissed from the Pateli Office after he was returned to the District Board on the Congress ticket.

Similarly Sjt. S.T. Venkate Gowda has been removed from the Pateli Office as he refused to resign his Congress membership.

V. CHITALDRUG DISTRICT:-

Shanbogue Sjt. B. Sankarappa has been suspended on his final refusal to non-copperate with Congressmen. He is not a member of the Congress.

VI. SHIMOGA DISTRICT:---

Sjt. H. Ramachendra Bhatta, Patel, Jambavalli, was asked to show cause why he should not be removed from his Office for having helped Congressmen during the recent elections. When he appeared before the S.D.O. he was asked to apologise. He preferred to resign from his Office of Pateli.

There are several other instances from other districts also which are under consolidation. Nor have instances anterior to the District Board elections been included herein. They form a compendium by themselves, in respect of which three letters have already been addressed to the Chief Secretary to the Government without eliciting a reply to any of them.